

After Paul graduated from Beaver High School in 1949, he left Bluefield to further his education at Davidson College. He returned home in 1954 with his degree in-hand. That same year, he married the love of his life, Carol Ann McHugh. To provide for his wife and future children, Paul joined the United States Army. He served our country fearlessly in active duty for two years and continued his service in the Reserves until reaching the rank of Captain. He would later attend Harvard School of Business, earning a Master's in Business Administration.

Thereafter, he was hired by IBM to work at their Headquarters in New York City as a Systems Engineer. He pursued this role and lived in New York City until his father's unexpected death in 1965. He quickly took a one-year "leave of absence" from IBM—which he never came back from—and returned to Bluefield to take over the Cole family estate.

Paul took up his father's mantle as the Head of Operations over the Cole Motor Company. At that time, the Company was internationally known as a Harvester Dealership. Through his up-bringing and education, Paul was a natural Captain at the Helm. His leadership brought forth many opportunities for the Company. The two most prominent were the formation of Truck City Parts in 1975 and the purchase of Evans Chevrolet in 1982 (Later to become Cole Chevrolet).

As his father and grandfather did, Paul continuously sought ways to give back to the community. He was elected to Bluefield's Mayoral office in 1981. He was consecutively re-elected between the years of 1981 and 1993. He served one nonconsecutive term from 2000 to 2001. Paul is known as Bluefield's longest serving Mayor. Pulling from his business experiences, Paul brought integrity, honesty, and fiscal responsibility to the office. The city truly thrived under his leadership.

A list of Paul's other accomplishments includes—Chairman of the American Truck Dealers Association from 1978 to 1980, lifelong member of the West Virginia Auto Dealers Association and was elected for a period of time as their President, the first West Virginian to be inducted into the Automotive Hall of Fame, lifelong member of the Bluefield Chamber of Commerce and was elected for a period of time as their President, lifelong member of the Bluefield Rotary Club and was elected for a period of times as their President, received an honorary Doctorate Degree from Northwood University for his leadership in helping to establish a Truck Marketing Curriculum, traveled with Bluefield State College's delegation to Taiwan to help establish a partnership between Bluefield State College and three higher education institutions within the People's Republic of China, lifelong member of Mesa, inducted into Bluefield High School's High of Fame in 2003, Bluefield State College named their School of Business after Paul's namesake in 2010, husband, father of three, grandfather to thirteen, and great-grandfather to fourteen.

Today, Paul's legacy can be seen all throughout Appalachia. The Cole Automotive Group, formally known as the Cole Motor Company, is now operated by generations of Coles—all striving to uphold the precedent of excellence achieved by Paul, his father, and grandfather. With many locations in Bluefield and in the surrounding areas, the Coles continue to provide an exceptional service to my

constituents in West Virginia's Third Congressional District.

May God bless William Cole, Jr. I wish I could thank him for all he did for the great State of West Virginia. He will always be remembered by his family, friends, and the countless people he impacted throughout his life. I send my sincerest condolences to the Cole family, especially his wife, Carol Ann, and children, Bill, Tom, and Charles.

#### REMEMBERING DOÑA GRACIELA CRUZ

#### HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 29, 2020*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Doña Graciela Cruz. It is with a heavy heart that I reflect on our loss of a valued member of our community in my district. Ms. Cruz, who passed in early June, left us with a legacy of compassion and kindness, which lives on in both the memories of her loved ones and those in Williamsburg she inspired.

Ms. Cruz spent the majority of her life in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, and sought to repay her community for the kindness it showed her. She did not spend her days idly, instead preferring to pour her energy into the neighborhood around her. In the 1970's, she served as the coach for a women's softball league at McCarren park, teaching others how to find the same joy she had for her favorite sport. Throughout her life, she was an active member of her local church, regularly putting all of her effort into events and activities for the local youth. Her work with the children was borne of a true love for seeing those around her flourish.

Ms. Cruz possessed the strong spirit of an activist, putting that energy towards the betterment of her community where we needed it most. She always believed in political empowerment and the importance of encouraging more people to vote. Some might say she loved two sports equally: softball and politics.

Ms. Cruz, along with other members of her community, fought to start a garden in her neighborhood, later known as the Keap Street Community Gardens. Despite opposition from some local elected officials, Doña Graciela persevered. She and neighbors broke down both physical and political barriers to take a previously unused space and transform it into a valuable community anchor.

Over many decades, she became a steadfast activist for tenants' rights, and attended countless rallies over the years to fight for fair, livable housing. Her devotion is truly inspiring to everyone she knew, myself and my staff included.

Doña Graciela is survived by her children, extended family, and friends, as well as a community that has felt her loss deeply. My thoughts and prayers are with her family. I hope they may take some comfort during these difficult times in knowing just how deeply she is missed by us all.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. NEAL P. DUNN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 29, 2020*

Mr. DUNN. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on Friday 7/24 due to a previously scheduled minor medical procedure. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 162, NAY on Roll Call No. 163, YEA on Roll Call No. 164, YEA on Roll Call No. 165, and NAY on Roll Call No. 166.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE MIAMI CITY BALLET

#### HON. DONNA E. SHALALA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 29, 2020*

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of the Miami City Ballet on the occasion of its 35th anniversary.

The Miami City Ballet was founded in 1985. A majority of the company's performances are made up of the work of George Balanchine, one of the most influential choreographers of the 20th Century. Today, the Miami City Ballet is widely considered the chief interpreter of Balanchine's choreography. The foundation of the company's repertoire—consisting of more than 100 ballets, including 12 world premieres—was built on Balanchine's style and technique but has now expanded to include notable classical works and new groundbreaking, contemporary artists. The Miami City Ballet has performed in more than 100 cities in the United States, and internationally throughout Canada, Europe, Israel, South and Central America.

This year, the Miami City Ballet is returning to its original home on Lincoln Road in Miami Beach to celebrate its 35th anniversary season with "A Love Letter to South Florida". I am proud this organization is representative of our Miami community with its diverse international ensemble of over 50 dancers. It is an honor to join the South Florida community in celebrating the Miami City Ballet's vibrant history.

Through engagement programs aimed at diminishing barriers to access to the arts, the Miami City Ballet continues to give back to our community, serving over 19,000 youth, seniors, and historically underserved populations at home. As the Miami City Ballet honors South Florida with their love letter to the community, I am grateful for all this organization has done to contribute to the rich culture of the Magic City.

#### NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN LATINO ACT

SPEECH OF

#### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 27, 2020*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as an original cosponsor and senior member of Democratic congressional delegation from